

PETERS TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL

COURSE SYLLABUS: SPEECH

Course Information	Teacher Information
<u>Course Length:</u> Semester <u>Class Location:</u> Rm. 129 <u>Teacher Website:</u> www.ptshsenglishgarden.com	<u>Name:</u> Mrs. Hitchens <u>Phone:</u> 724.941.6250 ext. 5391 <u>Email:</u> hitchensd@pt-sd.org

Course Overview and Essential Skills

“Speech is power: speech is to persuade, to convert, to compel.” ~ Ralph Waldo Emerson, American philosopher.

This highly recommended semester class is a practical course designed to offer the novice speaker numerous opportunities to prepare and practice public speaking assignments. Students will become strategic, confident, and credible communicators in academic settings, the workplace, and the community. Emphasis is on the organization, research support, delivery, and evaluation of informative, persuasive, entertaining, and inspirational speeches. The meaningful use of presentation technology will also be included. Speech class offers the opportunity to make yourself heard.

Course Textbook and Required Materials:

- Required daily materials: Pocket Folder, Pencil or Pen
- Additional useful item: Highlighter

Course Outline of Material Covered:

Unit or Topic	Concepts/Skills/Resources	Timeframe
The Art of Public Speaking	* Recognize public speaking as an important personal, academic, and social skill * Understand the nature of speech anxiety and employ strategies to control stage fright * Consider the interrelated steps of the communication process * Identify the qualities that make someone an effective communicator * Construct an outline of ideas including an effective introduction, body, and conclusion * Incorporate visual aids to enhance a presentation * Speak with confidence before an audience, practicing public speaking elements of delivery and voice, including of eye contact, rate, volume, and fluency * <i>Performance Tasks: Interview Speech Visual Aid Speech</i>	Approx. 3 weeks
Speaking to Inform	* Select a suitable topic for a speech * Provide support for a main idea, including facts, examples, anecdotes, statistics, definitions, descriptions, and other elements of validation * Locate and incorporate print and web research resources in a presentation * Create a bibliography following MLA guidelines * Construct an outline of ideas including an effective introduction, body, and conclusion	Approx. 7 weeks

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Incorporate visual aids to enhance a presentation * Speak with confidence before an audience, practicing public speaking elements of delivery and voice, including of eye contact, rate, volume, fluency, and posture * <i>Performance Tasks: Quotation Speech Demonstration Speech Culture Speech Career Exploration Speech</i> 	
Speaking as Performance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Select a work of literature for oral interpretation * Analyze the literature to determine its meaning and mood * Practice interpretive reading techniques including volume, rate, inflection, stress, pauses, and accents * Speak with confidence before an audience, practicing public speaking elements of delivery and voice, including of eye contact, fluency, and enthusiasm * <i>Performance Task: Oral Interpretation Speech</i> 	Approx. 2 weeks
Speaking to Persuade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Select a suitable topic for a speech * Apply strategies of persuasion, including logical, emotional, and personal appeals * Provide support for a main idea, including facts, examples, anecdotes, statistics, definitions, descriptions, and other elements of validation * Locate and incorporate print and web research resources in a presentation * Implement rehearsal strategies for increased confidence and improved performance * Speak with confidence before an audience, practicing public speaking elements of delivery and voice, including of eye contact, rate, volume, fluency, and posture * <i>Performance Task: Editorial Speech</i> 	Approx. 3 weeks
Speaking for a Special Occasion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Consider the purposes and formats of special occasion speeches: introducing a speaker; presenting or accepting an award; commemorating an individual (testimonial or eulogy) * Adopt a tone to evoke an appropriate mood in a speech * Speak with confidence before an audience, practicing public speaking elements of delivery and voice, including of eye contact, rate, volume, fluency, and posture * <i>Performance Task: Special Occasion Speech</i> 	Approx. 1 week
Speaking to Inspire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Develop enlightening and relevant content to communicate “an idea worth spreading” * Implement the three components of an inspiring presentation: emotional, novel, memorable * Incorporate illustrative stories (anecdotes) to connect to an audience * Consider the importance of enthusiasm, practice, and strong delivery to impact an audience * Incorporate technology to create memorable visuals * <i>Performance Task: TED-Style Talk</i> 	Approx. 2 weeks

**Depending on the needs of the class or changes in the school year, the course outline is subject to change.*

Grading Policy:

A student's quarter grade will represent an average of total points for all presentations and assigned course work. Accumulated earned points divided by the total number of possible points determines the percentage grade.

The majority of the semester class time will require active participation as students develop and present a variety of speeches to an audience of classmates. Thorough preparation for each speech, including practice, is expected. Handouts with specific guidelines for each speech (grading criteria, due date, etc.) will be given throughout the semester. Scoring rubrics for completed speeches will be returned and grades will be posted at the end of each unit.

There will be no extra credit points possible for this course.

Academic Integrity and the Student Honor Code:

Important note: All academic work in this course follows the Academic Integrity policy of the Peters Township District. Students are expected to maintain the Peters Township Honor Code: **As a student of Peters Township School District, I recognize the value of my own learning and pledge to maintain honesty and academic integrity in all that I do. All work that I submit is my own.** Any student that is unsure of the expectations of an assignment should seek clarification from the teacher.

Attendance:

Attendance is expected at every class meeting, for the full time period. If class time must be missed, it is a student's responsibility to keep up with the lessons. If a student knows of an absence in advance, he or she is advised to contact the teacher as soon as possible. Students must be on time for class. Hall passes will be reserved for emergency situations only.

Electronic Devices:

Students are permitted to bring their own technology devices to school for educational use in our class. Devices can be used for assigned tasks only and must otherwise be silenced and kept out of sight. No photos or videos may be taken in the classroom without teacher permission.

A Final Note:

"You can be a good, very good, or even superstar speaker. How good you become depends on you. The reward for all that work is how great you will feel and a skill that you will enjoy for life and that may enable you to help others more than you know."

Bill Hoogterp, Your Perfect Presentation